



ISSUES & PROGRAMS

WBKA

2nd QUARTER 2023 (April, May, June)

Public Affairs

WBKA airs the public affairs show "Maine View" that is designed to address important community issues. The following is a list of show topics during the Quarter. Each edition of Maine View also includes Maine Governor Janet Mill's weekly radio address and the response from the Republican Party in Maine. Each address runs roughly 5 minutes. Maine View has a run time of 20 minutes and airs Sunday at 6:00am

4/2: This week' edition features a talk with Caragh Fitzgerald, Associate Extension Professor of Agriculture for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. She is based in Kennebec County. The topic is preparing you garden and yard for the upcoming Spring and Summer seasons. Topics include: cleaning flower beds; selecting and caring for perennial and annual flowers; choosing the right time to plant vegetables; pruning shrubs and bushes; watering of plants; and the necessary task of weeding. Fitzgerald oversees two programs for the Extension – the Master Gardener Volunteer Program and the Harvest for Hunger Produce Donation Program.



4/9: This edition features, a conversation with the national weather service meteorologist Donnie Dumont. He is the warning, coordination, meteorologist for Maine emergency management.

Dumont discusses the likelihood of flooding in Maine this spring. He also speaks of the cyclical nature of weather in our world and, and what to expect from means northern rivers versus its southern rivers and streams. We also welcome into our studio business, man and former candidate for governor in our state Sean Moody. Moody talks of the blue-collar scholarship program in our state. Moody announces that organizations and businesses have raised \$100,000 to present scholarships to young students entering the "trades." Moody defines the "trades," along with the "trades deficit," and how students might apply. This addition runs 21 minutes and 30 seconds.

4/16: This edition features, a conversation with Lauren Stewart of Maine's Bureau of Highway Safety. April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Lauren shares stats of an observational study from every county of Maine counting drivers breaking Maine's hand free driving law. The study also details which age group and which gender are more likely to break the law. She also touches on effort to educate young drivers to get out of the habit of texting, driving and dying. Also, we speak with State entomologist Tom Schmeelk of the Maine Forest Service. A listener asked what the coming spring and summer might mean for brown tail moths, ticks and other pests. Tom offers answers -- but no promises. This addition runs 21 minutes.

4/23: This week's edition features a talk with Nick Brown, Highway Safety Coordinator with the Maine Department of Public Safety. The topic was distracted driving, and the recognition of April as Distracted Driving Month, and ways to avoid it. The DHS has instituted a program named "Text Less, Live More." The emphasis is that distracted driving is caused by many things – putting on makeup, eating, checking for things under the seat, for example – but texting while driving has been shown to be the top cause according to the latest accident statistics. Brown suggests putting the phone away so it can be reached when operating a motor vehicle, and not answering incoming calls.

Brown also suggested celebrating Earth Day weekend by getting outside, without your phone to disturb the sounds of nature.



4/30: This edition features, a conversation with Tim Hobbs of the small business administration in Maine. Tim talks about “thrive,” a program, connecting small business owners in our state with small business owners in New England, and across the nation to share best practices. Tim talks about the value of being in one of the cohorts of “thrive,” how the program is free, and how it has evolved to help small business owners in our state. We also talk with Sue Baker of Maine emergency management.

Traditionally, this time of year brings flooding to towns and cities along means rivers. Ice dams are the usual culprit.

SUE Baker tells us of the importance of having flood insurance, and how many are duped into thinking that a disaster declaration will help them cover expenses, which is not necessarily true. This edition runs 21 minutes.

5/7: In this addition, we speak with Carrie Lemos of the Unlimited solutions clubhouse in Bangor. The unlimited solutions clubhouse resumes, its annual “melodies for the mind” concert at Husson University’s Gracie theater next Thursday. Lemos talks of the importance of the concert, the funds, it raises, and the mission of the unlimited solutions clubhouse, and helping those with mental illness, find solutions to their challenges and find themselves productive members of society. We also talk with former television and radio broadcaster, Cindy, Michaels, who now goes by the name C. Arden, Michaels. Michael’s has written a book titled “before the rooster crows twice.” Arden talks of her Christian ---based fictitious work, what inspired her to put “pen to paper,” the long delay in her work, and her success in self publishing. This edition runs 21 minutes.

5/14: This week’s edition features a talk with James Dill, Director of the Diagnostic and Research Laboratory at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension service - based in Orono. He is a also a member of the Maine House of Representatives, serving District 14. The topic is Browntail Caterpillars and Moths and the health problems they cause in Maine. Officially they pose a Public Health Nuisance, because the hairs from the caterpillar cause a rash similar to poison ivy after making contact with skin. If inhaled, the hairs can cause respiratory illness. Once only existing in coastal areas, they are now found in all 16 counties in Maine. Despite varying temperatures this spring, Dill says the caterpillars will be just as prolific in 2023 than in years past. Concentrations of the pest in Waterville, Bangor, and other areas have ushered in public emergencies. There have been seminars held to teach residents how to eradicate when the newborn caterpillars are wintering-over in nests on the tips of tree branches. Their only natural enemy is a fungus that develops in certain weather conditions. Dill said the Coop Extension Service works closely with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry in gathering and spreading information. Time 17:58



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BROADCASTING

5/21: This edition, welcome to Steven Mallory, with the Maine Emergency Management Agency. He's with the Operations and Response division monitoring the hundreds of dams in our state. Maine and the nation Mark's national dam safety awareness day this month. Stephan, sizes of the safety of our existing dams and shares what measures are in place to ensure their continued integrity. We also reconnect with Connor archer of the courageous steps project. Connor is "on the spectrum" of autism. He has organized the annual walk/run in honor of Dylan McInnes. The event returns to old town high schools victory field this month. Connor tells us Dylan's story and shares his own and how money raise from this event helps parents of children with autism find the programs they need. This edition runs 21 minutes.

5/28: This edition had Bangor Police Community Resource Officer Liz Ashe bringing members of Community Health & Counseling Services OPTIONS Program. Options is a front-facing program, working the streets and meeting one on one with those needed nacan/naloxone to revive from a drug overdose. One member was a former drug addict, revived multiple times, now in recovery, and now works helping lead the addicted to recovery. We also talk with Terry Atwood of the Bangor Area Motorcycle School. He and law enforcement are making May at Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. Terry recalls the number of motorcycle fatalities last year, how many this year, and what can be done to make road safer for cyclists and drivers -- including the idea of mandatory training, licensing and the spectre of distracted driving. This edition runs 22:30.

6/4: This week's edition features a talk with Griffin Dill of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. He manages the Tick Diagnostic and Research Laboratory at UMaine and coordinates the Integrated Tick Management Program. Dill reports there were more than 2600 cases of Lyme Disease in Maine in 2022, caused by attaching ticks, and the actual number is believed to be ten times the reported cases. Earlier this year a case of the tick-borne Powassan Virus was detected in an adult resident in Sagadahoc County. Dill said ticks are expanding their range in Maine, partly due to a mild winter and wet Spring conditions. Dill discussed reducing tick habitats around the yard, such as cleaning up grass and wood piles and cutting lower limbs of trees to allow more sunlight. The heat from the sun dries and kills the ticks. Residents can send ticks to the diagnostic lab for examination for a nominal fee. Dill also discussed the Extension 4H Tick Project – a combined effort to spread knowledge and awareness of the insects.
Time 19:46



6/11: This edition features a conversation with Tony Bernache, of the Bangor fourth of July corporation. Last we talked with Tony, the corporation needed to raise \$105,000 to finance, the Independence Day activities, parade, pancake, breakfast, concert, fireworks, for Brewer and Bangor. Tony, updates us on the fundraising, tell us who some of the big corporate donors are, and welcomes The Grammy award winning Director of the Bangor Symphony orchestra, Lucas Richman, and Sarah McCarthy of the BSO to talk about their plans for the Independence Day events. We also talk with Dr. Samuel Roy, of Maine emergency management association. Atlantic hurricane season is underway. Dr. Roy, talks about the likelihood of a hurricane, reaching Maine, what damage it might cause should it make it this far north, plus discusses an online dashboard he maintains giving people a chance to glance and see what hurricane information they may need to protect themselves and their families. This edition runs 22 minutes and 30 seconds.

6/18: This edition features a conversation with Kathryn Ravenscraft of the Bangor Humane Society . A "best friends, animal society" survey finds that 93% of Maine's animal shelters, have a safe raid, meaning they do not see any animals, euthanized, and see all of them adopted. The Bangor Humane Society is among them. Ravenscraft talks about efforts from staff to maintain an even higher, save rate and previews the upcoming pause on Parade, the biggest fundraiser for the Humane Society annually. We also talked with Dan Cashman, founder of the program "the Rigo reads." This program picks up where "raising readers" left off. It seeks to put new books in the hands of every first grader every month of the school year in Maine. Dan talks about how, at its inception, the program had six participating schools, Whereas today, 25% of all me and Schools are participating in Dirigo and Reads. Then also discuss his efforts to bring even more schools into the program. This addition runs 21 minutes.

6/25: This week's edition features a talk with Barry Norris, Executive Director of the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs. The Maine fair season opens June 15 with the Springfield Fair, and continues in 22 other locations through the Fryeburg Fair on October 1-8. Norris said in the years after many fairs were cancelled due to Covid-19, the attendance has returned to pre-pandemic levels. There is, however, a general lack of adequate fair volunteers. So the Association is putting out the call for anyone interested in volunteering. There is also concern about Avian Bird Flu again in 2023. Its presence may require cutbacks or improved safety measures at poultry shows at fairs. Harness racing is back at the Topsham Fair after being absent for several years. Racing also takes place at the Skowhegan, Bangor, Farmington, Windsor, Cumberland and Fryeburg Fairs. Time 16:06.